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Images courtesy of the Governor's Office.

**2017 SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD WINNERS HONORED DURING CEREMONY
AT STATE HOUSE**

COLUMBIA, SC – Winners of the 2017 South Carolina Historic Preservation Awards were honored on Friday, June 16th during a ceremony at the State House. The awards were presented by Governor Henry McMaster and were sponsored by the Office of the Governor, the South Carolina Archives and History Foundation, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, and The Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation. Awards highlight six categories (Honor, Stewardship, Preservation Service, Heritage Tourism, Elected Official Honor Award, and the Governor's Award) and recognize the exceptional accomplishments of preservation, rehabilitation and interpretation of the Palmetto State's architectural and cultural heritage.

The Governor's Award was presented to **James C. Meadors**, of Charleston. Founder of Meadors, Inc. in 1984, Mr. Meadors has lived a life dedicated to the preservation of historical structures. He has helped restore a multitude of buildings across the state including historic house museums in Charleston, the Abbeville Opera House, and the Clarendon County Court House. His projects have led to LEED recognition and State Historic Preservation Honor Awards. His insistence on historically accurate building materials and methods, along with the incorporation of new technologies results in projects that allow buildings to survive for generations to come.



The **Elected Official Honor Award** was presented to **Mayor Anne Johnston** of St. George. Since relocating to St. George in 1987, Mayor Johnston has been a valuable member of the community and supporter of historic preservation. Starting in 2002, she helped obtain funding for the restoration of the circa 1894 Klauber Building, now home to the Chamber of Commerce and the St. George Visitor's Center. Mrs. Johnston has served as Mayor since 2007 and is currently working to save the St. George Rosenwald School, a rare remaining example of schools built with assistance from the Julius Rosenwald Fund to serve African American students. Mayor Johnston has also served as an advisor for over fifteen years to the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, helping to identify historic resources and facilitate partnerships throughout her town, county, and region.



Five **Honor Awards** were presented to celebrate recent successful historic preservation projects.

Chappelle Auditorium in Columbia was honored with an Honor Award for the completion of the recent eight year, \$2.9 million restoration project. Constructed in 1925 and designed by John Anderson Lankford, one of the nation's first licensed African American architects, Chappelle Auditorium has served as a significant meeting place for well-known African American political and religious leaders, as well as a venue for notable artists and musicians. The painstaking efforts of GMK Associates in collaboration with William Robinson of Allen University as well as the donations and support of many others, resulted in a beautifully restored auditorium that is now home to the Bishop Richard F. Norris Center for Performing Arts.



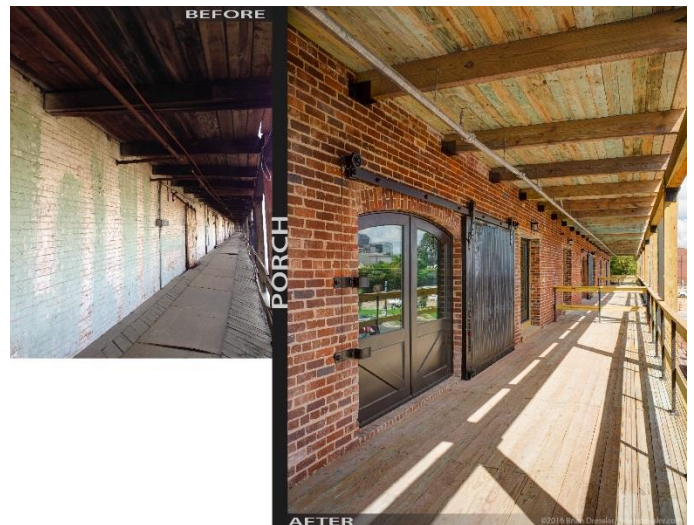
Hickman Hall, located in the heart of Graniteville, received an Honor Award for the restoration of the ornate Classic Revival building constructed in 1907. The building, both a monument to former Graniteville Manufacturing president Hamilton H. Hickman, and a community center for the company's employees, was converted to a medical and administrative center for company personnel in 1933 and continued to serve that purpose until mill operations ceased in 2005. The team responsible for the renovations of Hickman Hall demonstrated great care in accurately restoring the structure. This stunning and gracious restoration led by Smith Dalia Architects, Peachtree Investment Solutions and R.W. Allen Contractors returned a flagship building to community use.



Holtzendorff Hall at Clemson University received an Honor Award for the restoration of the Italian Renaissance style building designed by Professor Rudolf Lee. Constructed in 1915 to serve as the YMCA for Clemson Military College, the building was repurposed over the years for classrooms and offices. In 2015, archival research and paint analysis were compiled into a rehabilitation plan for the building. Completed in 2016, the project led by Clemson University Historic Properties, 1st Class Construction and Preservation South, returned the auditorium to a vibrant space used Monday through Friday. The positive response of students, faculty, and alumni has inspired the administration to plan more rehabilitation projects on other notable campus buildings.



The **Palmetto Compress** in Columbia, constructed between 1917 and 1923, is a rare surviving example of a cotton compress facility and one of the largest cotton warehouses in the state. Recipient of a 2017 Honor Award, the Palmetto Compress is significant for its role in the growth of the textile industry, and as an excellent example of warehouse design and construction from the early twentieth century. The rehabilitation project focused on preserving the original warehouse form, while introducing apartment and retail uses. The project helps anchor a transforming district between downtown Columbia and the riverfront, made possible through the efforts of PMC Property Group, Garvin Design Group, and Triangle Construction Company.



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The **Wilkins Mansion** in Greenville is an excellent and rare example of a high-style Italianate residence. Built in 1878, the Wilkins Mansion received an Honor Award for a thorough and painstaking restoration. When threatened by demolition in 2013, a group of concerned citizens worked to raise funds to relocate the building. In 2014, the 750-ton house was carefully moved a block and a half from its original location, in what is believed to be the heaviest building move in South Carolina history. The project team of



Acentus LLC, Rembrely Construction, and Preservation South was dedicated to recreating lost features of the house through careful investigation into photos and remnant detail, resulting in an outstanding example of preservation in their community.

Two **Preservation Service Awards** were presented to recognize projects and activities that make exemplary contributions to the advancement of historic preservation.

Melanie Beal Marks was recognized for her research into the Cyrus (Garvey) Garvin Family genealogy and her efforts in co-authoring with her colleague, Patricia Hines, *The Garvin House: Journey of a Freedman's Family Bluffton, South Carolina*. The Garvin/Garvey house, built circa 1870, is a rare, surviving example of a home constructed and occupied by a freedman in the South Carolina Lowcountry. Ms. Marks spent nearly two years poring over various documents in archives, visiting cemeteries, and conducting interviews with the community to bring to life the story of the house and family. Ms. Mark's donation of her research to the town of Bluffton has provided the Garvin/Garvey house the potential to become a centerpiece of interpretation of African American history and Gullah/Geechee culture in Bluffton.



The Charleston County Zoning and Planning Department was recognized with a Preservation Service Award for the **2016 Charleston County Historic and Architectural Survey Update**. Following the 2013 demolition of a significant local resource due to lack of preservation laws for unincorporated Charleston County, the Charleston County Zoning and Planning Department formed a sub-committee to assist with a survey update to preserve the local community, documenting more than 1,300 resources. As the survey evolved, it focused on the historical significance of African American communities in unincorporated areas of the county.



Three **Stewardship Awards** were presented to recognize those who have ensured the ongoing preservation of historic buildings, structures or sites through long-term care, planning, management, protection, or continuous ownership.

Drayton Hall was honored with a Stewardship Award to recognize over four decades of care and preservation. The site, which has been preserved by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and now the Drayton Hall Preservation Trust, has been subject of meticulous research and study, including a recent project on the portico on the west side of the house. The project focused on carefully lifting the stone columns, rebuilding the masonry supports, improving drainage, and the reinstallation of pavers. Special contributions were made by Drayton Hall Preservation Trust, Bennett Engineering PC for assessing the structure, and Richard Marks Restoration Inc. for the careful reconstruction of the portico.



Historic Rock Hill was awarded a Stewardship Award for their diligent work to raise awareness of the importance of historic preservation in their community since 1986. The organization has been instrumental in multiple public preservation efforts including establishing the City's Board of Historic Review, support for local nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, and assisting and guiding publications on the history of the area. In 2005, Historic Rock Hill purchased the White Home dating from circa 1838, and began a five year, \$2.2 million fundraising effort to successfully restore the property. The organization has stood by its mission to "preserve and protect" by offering educational programs, special events, community activities, and leading preservation initiatives.



The final Stewardship Award was presented to **The Ruins**, located in the Stateburg Historic District of Sumter County. Since their purchase in 1985, Colonel and Mrs. Rett Summerville have taken extensive measures to ensure that the property retains its historic character. With ties to General Thomas Sumter, The Ruins were constructed in 1784 and expanded in 1838 by Robert and Videau DeVeaux. Until 2008, the Summerville's maintained The Ruins from long distances, as Colonel Summerville was on active duty in the military. Weekends and vacations were spent on preservation projects like replacing the front and back porches. The Summerville's share the house and its history with the community, opening their home to the public for tours and special events. Last year, nearly 700 people visited for "Christmas at The Ruins." Four hundred acres surround the home and have been placed in a conservation land trust, with the commitment from the Summerville's children and grandchildren to continue the preservation of the home for years to come.



The **Heritage Tourism Award** recognizes those that best use South Carolina's cultural and historic resources in the promotion and development of tourism to directly benefit the preservation of the Palmetto State's heritage.

The 2017 recipient of the Heritage Tourism Award is the **Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative (CJHI)**. Led by Historic Columbia in partnership with the College of Charleston's Jewish Heritage Collection, the Jewish Community Center and Columbia Jewish Heritage Federation, the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina, and Richland Library, the initiative documents and provides greater access to local Jewish history. Archival materials, including oral histories and photographs, were collected and then combined with extensive research, to create three tangible products that expand the heritage tourism opportunities in Columbia including a walking tour, web based tour and the installation of three South Carolina Historical Markers. The project has brought recognition and greater understanding of Jewish culture and the immigrant experiences that helped shape Columbia, contributing to the greater understanding of these historic sites and making it possible for future learning and preservation.

